



Media Musings

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Africa Inland Mission Retirement Center

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We are excited to bring you the next newsletter of the AIM Retirement Center, "Media". The reason for the newsletter is to keep you informed on what is happening at Media as well as give information about the missionaries who live here. The 80+ residents and staff represent more than 2,200 years of ministry. We hope this newsletter will help you get to know some of them and what they do at Media. You can also find this letter at www.retirementcenter.aimsites.org The Editors



LEGACY

Something handed down from an ancestor or a predecessor or from the past. At Media we are surrounded by this type of legacy. Currently there are 18 Missionary Kids living here or on staff. Some of these have grandparents who were missionaries: (Shaffer; Stauffacher; Barnett; Downing) -pioneers in the early days of AIM Paul Barnett, Don Baker, Rusty Baker, Paul Buyse, Dottie Downing Hildebrandt, Elaine Donner Barnett, Les Harris, MaryAnne Stauffacher Harris, Julie Zimmerman, Mary Modricker, Jeannie Pontier Morse, Ruth Shaffer Johansen, Olive Downey, Craig Fraley. Staff: Beth Baker Flack, Janice Baker Dunkerton, Rich Dunkerton, Gloria Smethers, Cindy Beverly Isbell. An additional three live nearby and are frequently seen at Media: Shirley Hurlburt McLean, Jane Fast, Phil Hornberger. And many of these, and others residents, have children and grandchildren serving with AIM today. Multiple generations of MK's.

To emphasize this legacy we had an MK Night Event where we let the MK's share some of their memories of growing up overseas, coming on furlough, boarding school, returning to the USA for school and living, fun times and basically anything else they wanted to share. What a great time and it was amazing to hear many different stories even though they grew up on the same continent and many went to the same school.

Thinking now of maybe having a time for them to share

what it meant to be going back to where they call home as a grown up and missionary. More news to come.

Missionary Kids (MK's) are unique! If you are an MK, you know that. If you have ever known an MK, you undoubtedly know it too! Without even trying, their life is just different from the norm. Some people seem to pity Missionary Kids for all the things they have supposedly given up. Yes, it is true that they give up some things when they leave America and go to live in a foreign land, but don't feel sorry for them! Missionary Kids have a life of adventure about which most kids can only dream

You know you are an MK if:

You flew before you could walk.

You have friends from or in 29 different countries.

You go to school in a Cessna rather than a school bus.

When you find a bug in your food, you calmly pick it out and finish eating.

You believe vehemently that football is played with a round, spotted ball.

You can't answer the question, "Where are you from?"

Switching languages in mid-sentence seems normal to you.

You'd rather never say hello than have to say goodbye.

SPRING LUNCHEON



MEMORIAL DAY



Men singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic

SAFARI TO RAFIKI FOUNDATION



HIDDEN TREASURE NIGHT



Searching for treasure

BIRTHDAY



Paul Buyse and his team doing charades at the Birthday Party



Charles D. Fraley, M.D., was born and raised on a farm in Western Ohio, near Greenville, Ohio. He was saved at age 11. After high school, he went in to the U.S. Navy for 4 years of service. This turned out to be a time of spiritual growth and Bible study. From the Navy, he went on to Nyack Bible College where he met Marlene A. Devlin in 1954. Marlene was born and raised in Pittsburgh, PA, was saved at age 12, and felt led to become a Nurse Missionary to Africa. He and Marlene have been together ever since. At that time, Charles had received a clear directive from the Lord to become a doctor and go to Africa to serve Him there. They were engaged in April 1955. In 1958, they graduated from Pre-Med and Nursing, married, and went on to Medical School. After becoming an M.D., in 1962, they went on to Ohio for Internship and surgical residency. Charles became a Board Certified General Surgeon and was asked to go back to his hometown area to serve, in that they were short of Doctors. He

had a busy practice around Greenville, Ohio until Jan., 1972, when they came to grips with the knowledge that God had called them to serve as missionaries in Africa. A neighbor gave them Dr. Carl Becker's book "Another Hand on Mine" which drew them to have contact with AIM. While going through the process of approval, they went to Jackson, MS to assist Rev. John Perkins start a clinic among the poor black folks in the area of Mendenhall, MS. In July, 1974, they departed for Kola Ndoto Hospital in Tanzania to serve under AIM and AIC. They spent one year at Kola Ndoto, and then felt led to join Dr. Wm. Barnett at Kijabe, Kenya. They served at Kijabe Hospital from July '76 to July '80, and Charles became the Medical Director at in July '78 to July '80. He was then asked to become the CEO & Coordinator of the AIC Health Ministries throughout Kenya. They served in this position until retirement in Dec. 2002. They lived in Hudson, FL area for 9 years, and Charles served as Assist. Chaplain at the Bayonet Point Regional Medical Center during that time. They moved to Media in Dec. '11, where they continue to assist the retired missionaries there with their medical needs as the opportunities arise. They have two children and eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. "God has shown us His great Love, Mercy and Grace, and it has been a great joy to know and serve Him through most of our lives. To Him be glory, praise and honor."

Marian Gibbon



Marian Gibbon grew up on a dairy farm in Pennsylvania, one of eight children. She and her twin sister accepted Christ as Savior during a Word of Life Rally in Altoona, Pa. She had an insatiable thirst for the Word of God. Challenged by, "I delight to do thy will." Psa. 40:8, they attended a Wednesday night prayer meeting where a lady prayed, "Lord send someone here to the mission field". Immediately, the Lord was saying, "you're the one to go". She didn't question this, but knew that she had to quit her job, break an engagement of two years, and find a Bible School. Within six months she was at the Bible Institute of Pennsylvania. After completing Bible School, the Lord directed her very definitely to the Philadelphia General Hospital School of Nursing. Working in New York after graduation, a friend invited her to go to Keswick where she learned about AIM and renewed acquaintance with Fred Gibbon whom she had known in Bible School. They were married in Oct 1953 and left for Kenya in Nov 1954. Through the years, they served on various mission

stations: Ogada, Nyakach, Eldama Ravine, Kapsabet, Kapsowar, Litein and Kijabe. Fred would teach Bible in Bible colleges or do TEE, along with being general handyman for everyone, and she would be in charge of clinics or work in the hospitals. He had a CVA (stroke) Nov. 11, 1991, and went to be with the Lord on January 3, 1992, at the age of 62 yrs., having served 37 yrs. Marian continued working at the hospital primarily in Maternity and Anesthesia. She retired at 70 yrs. of age and through circumstances that only the Lord could have engineered, She went with Samaritans Purse for an additional ten years in a war zone working in a hospital at Lui, in Sudan. They were wonderful years...utilizing all the experience she had from years of working in Kenya. Marian came to Media October, 2007. She has five children, fourteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Recently Marion went back to Kijabe Medical Center for their 100 Anniversary celebration (pictured above)

**PROMOTED TO
HEAVEN**

Gladys Becker

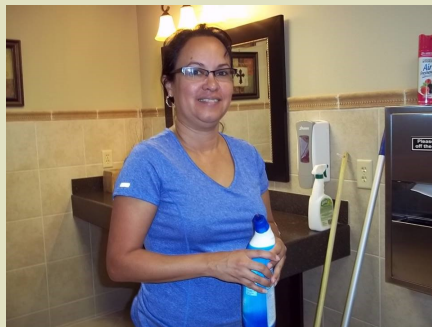


Elisabeth Elliot,
who was a winter
resident



WE ARE THANKFUL FOR...

Clermont Baptist ladies who came to clean Scott Manor



SEEN AROUND MEDIA



Runners from one of the many races around Clermont



Martha Hughell



Rich Dunkerton



White Ibis around a pond



Red Hat Ladies Tea